

SIR

VIA : AIR

DISPATCH NO. EGFA 21361

S-E-C-R-E-T

DATE: 21 April 1958

TO : Chief, SR INFO: EE, COS
FROM : Chief of Base, Frankfurt
SUBJECT: GENERAL : REDWOOD/AECOB/Operational.
SPECIFIC: Financial Status — AECAMUSO/3's Wife
REFERENCE : EGFW 6029, 21 December 1957
ACTION REQUESTED : Reply to paragraph 6 below

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES/METHODS EXEMPTION 3828
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2008

1. We would like to bring to your attention what we consider a potentially serious problem regarding AECAMUSO/3's wife. Subject has been in poor health for the past several months and is at present bedridden. She has just recovered from a siege of pneumonia, but is still suffering from arthritis and a "nervious condition". Subject is under the care of a local physician provided by the German Public Welfare Office. She is scheduled to go to a charity hospital for treatment but is unable to do so until after the Easter holidays at which time an acquaintance has agreed to care for her son.

2. Subject's "nervous condition" appears to be aggravated by her extremely poor financial condition. She is unable to work in order to supplement the meager payments of DM 250.00 per month she receives from us. Subject lives with her son in a small single room which she sub-lets from the occupants of a rather low class apartment. Although her son is seven years old and large for his age, he is still forced to sleep in a baby crib. The only heat available is a small coal stove in Subject's room. Aside from her sub-standard housing, the money Subject receives does not permit her to eat properly or to clothe herself or her son adequately. The above mentioned circumstances, taken in combination, seem to be the major cause for Subject's frequent spells of extreme depression. She is extremely nervous, occasionally somewhat irrelevant in conversation, and frequently breaks down in unexpected tears. Subject repeatedly mentions that she has no friends or acquaintances, and feels they and the world in general have deserted and ignored her — a fact she deeply resents.

3. Subject appears to believe that AECAMUSO/3 is still in Norway working on an American construction project (the cover used prior to his dispatch). She seems to have only a vague notion of the reasons why she receives her monthly payments and does not appear to consider that we owe any obligations to her.

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4. Subject does not seem to have any knowledge of the fate of AECAMUSO/3, and believes he has abandoned her. It should be noted, however, that several Latvian emigres in Germany have access to "CINA", in which the detailed circumstances of AECAMUSO/3's capture have been published. It is considered possible that this information may eventually reach Subject, in which case we would be faced with the prospects of an embarrassing flap. One can easily visualize the reactions that would be created should our shabby treatment of the wife of a man who sacrificed his freedom, if not his life, in our behalf be publicized.

5. It is believed AECAMUSO/3's contract contains the standard clause providing for settlement of his estate two years from the date of last contact from him or receipt of information indicating his demise. For all practical purposes, cannot "demise" be construed to include the agent's capture? It is beyond the realm of all likelihood that a Western agent, once captured in the Soviet Union, even though not executed, will ever be permitted, or manage on his own, to reach the West again. It seems certain that AECAMUSO/3 will never be in a position to claim any of the moneys due him. It is also considered probable that if AECAMUSO/3 were able to communicate his wishes in this matter he would prefer that his wife receive financial assistance now, when her need is acute, rather than later after an extended period. In the event you are pondering the truthfulness of the Soviet report that AECAMUSO/3 has been rehabilitated and works peacefully on a kolkhoz, it should be remembered that this agent has indicated "control", i.e., capture, since his first message.

6. It is therefore requested that you give serious consideration to making provisions for increasing AECAMUSO/3's wife's allowance in the near future. The additional amount (above DM 250.00 per month) given her could be charged against the amount eventually due her from AECAMUSO/3's escrow account. It is also recommended that if and when AECAMUSO/3's estate is finally settled, Subject not be given the full amount in one lump sum, but some arrangement be agreed on to pay her in several installments or deposit it in trust for her child with Subject able to draw up to a specified amount monthly. The foregoing, or similar arrangements, are deemed desirable since Subject does not appear overly stable and sudden comparative great wealth may do her more harm than good, as well as bring attention to her, causing a possible security problem.

APPROVED:

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